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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q78738

Yoshio ICHIKAWA

Appln. No.: 10/733,575

Group Art Unit: 1773

Confirmation No.: 8619

Examiner: Michael C. Miggins

Filed: December 12, 2003

For: FUEL TANK FOR MOTOR VEHICLE AND METHOD FOR PRODUCING THE SAME

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, along with a copy of the Communication (European Search Report) from the European Patent Office in counterpart European Patent Application No. EP 03 02 8702.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after either a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
U.S. Appln. No.: 10/733,575


ATTNY. DOCKET NO.: Q78738

(whichever is earlier), but before payment of the Issue Fee, and therefore Applicant is submitting herewith a check for the fee of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p), and a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e).

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,


Joseph J. Ruch, Jr.
Registration No. 26,577

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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: October 12, 2004

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO

Complete if Known

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

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of

1

Application Number	10/733,575
Confirmation Number	8619
Filing Date	December 12, 2003
First Named Inventor	Yoshio ICHIKAWA
Art Unit	1773
Examiner Name	Michael C. Miggins
Attorney Docket Number	Q78738

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
		JP	2002 105615	A	04-10-2002	Nippon Steel Corp.	Abstract
		JP	60 161460	A	08-23-1985	Ando M	Abstract
		WO	02/20874	A	03-14-2002	Nihon Parkerizing et al	
		EP	0 916 746	A	05-19-1999	Nippon Steel Corp.	

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

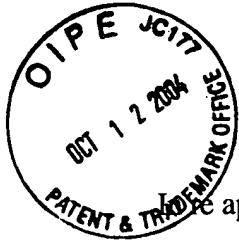
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.



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STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

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Sir:

The undersigned hereby states, upon information and belief that each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was first cited in the European Patent Office in counterpart European Patent Application No. EP 03 02 8702 not more than three months prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,


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